

Message Text

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70

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 EB-11 AGR-20 STR-08 COME-00

AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

CIEP-02 SPC-03 TRSE-00 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 L-03 PA-04

PRS-01 USIA-15 DRC-01 SS-20 NSC-10 OIC-04 NEA-10 EA-11

/206 W

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R 231754Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4978

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, EEC, ET

SUBJECT: PROPOSED CAP ON ALCOHOL

REF: (A) STATE 221632

(B) EC BRUSSELS 6768

1. ALTHOUGH REF (B) REPORTED INDEFINITE POSTPONEMENT OF ADOPTION OF CAP FOR ALCOHOL, WE FOLLOWED THROUGH NOVEMBER 23 ON PREVIOUSLY SCHEDULED MEETING WITH DREE OFFICIALS FOR DISCUSSION OF THIS SUBJECT AS SUGGESTED IN REF (A).

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2. LAFAURIE, CHIEF OF AGRICULTURAL POLICY FOR THE DREE, CONFIRMED

ALCOHOL CAP HAD BEEN DEFERRED AND EXPRESSED OPINION THAT HE DID NOT ENVISAGE ITS ADOPTION UNTIL JUL, 1974, AT EARLIEST WITH POSSIBLE IMPLEMENTATION AT END OF THAT YEAR. HE MENTIONED ONE PROBLEM AREA AS DIVERGENCE IN MANNER IN WHICH ALCOHOL MARKETED IN EC MEMBER STATES, POINTING OUT THAT PURE ALCOHOL HAD BEEN BOUGHT FROM PRODUCERS AND SOLD TO END USERS BY THE FRENCH STATE FOR 50 YEARS WHILE SUCH TRADE WAS MORE LIBRAL ELSEWHERE IN EC.

3. LAFASURE RECALLED OUR DEMARCHE ON ALCOHOL CAP AT THIS TIME LAST YEAR AND GAVE ASSURANCES THAT U.S. VIEWS HAD BEEN WELL VENTILATED IN FRENCH BUREAUCRACY AND WERE BEING GIVEN DUE CONSIDERATION. HE EMPHASIZED THAT GATT OBLIGATIONS WOULD BE HONORED.

4. REGARDING OUR CONCERN THAT U.S.GRAIN EXPORTS TO THE UK WOULD BE AFFECTED BY PROPOSED CAP, MADAME LEOTARD, LAFASURE'S ASSISTANT, STATED THERE HAD ALREADY BEEN SOME MODIFICATIONS ON THIS SCORE BUT SHE DID NOT GO INTO DETAILS. LAFASURE COMMENTED THAT FRANCE WAS HARDLY INTERESTED IN SUBSIDIZING BRITAIN'S WHISKEY EXPORTS TO THE U.S.

5. WE LEFT AIDE MEMOIRE WITH LAFASURE NEARLY IDENTICAL TO THAT PRESENTED TO EC COMMISSION IN OCTOBER 1972. SAME AIDE MEMOIRE WAS LEFT WITH SAZARIN, QUAI OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE FOR AMERICAN AFFAIRS ON ECONOMIC SIDE, WHO HAD NO COMMENT.
ANDERSEN

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Message Attributes

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EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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